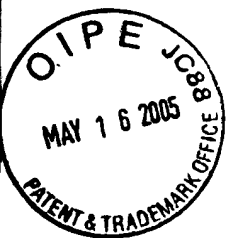


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John C. Adler
Assignee: Cisco Technology, Inc.
Title: PATH ROUTING AND PROVISIONING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Serial No.: 09/768,117 Filed: January 23, 2001
Examiner: Phirin Sam Group Art Unit: 2661
Docket No.: CIS0053US

Austin, Texas
May 12, 2005

MAIL STOP RCE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P. O. BO 1450
Washington, D. C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This paper and the accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE) are being submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated January 12, 2005 having a shortened statutory period set to expire on April 12, 2005, and subsequent Advisory Action dated April 18, 2005. Accompanying this response is a one-month Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for Extension of Time setting a new time for response of May 18, 2005. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

No Amendments to the Specification are presented in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

No Amendments to the Drawings are presented in this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.